



U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES **COMMAND (AIRBORNE)** ***BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <http://www.soc.mil>

Sgt. 1st Class Chad A. Gonsalves **Killed in Action on Feb. 13, 2006** **Operation Enduring Freedom**

Sgt. 1st Class Chad A. Gonsalves, 31, a Special Forces weapons sergeant assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, N.C., died Feb. 13, 2006, when an Improvised Explosive Device detonated near his Humvee north of Deh Rawod in central Afghanistan.

A native of Turlock, Calif., Gonsalves enlisted in July 1996 as an infantryman.

His first assignment was with 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment at Conn Barracks near Schweinfurt, Germany where he served for four years.

Gonsalves attended the Special Forces Qualification Course in 2000 and was assigned in November 2001 to 3rd Battalion, 7th SFG (A), as a weapons sergeant, where he served until his death.



His military education included the Special Forces Qualification Course, the Ranger Course, the Combat Diver Qualification Course, the Special Operations Target Interdiction Course, the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Course, the Spanish Basic Military Language Course, the Special Forces Assessment and Selection Course, Basic Airborne Course, the Jumpmaster Course, Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training for Infantryman, the Primary Leadership Development Course and the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course.

His awards and decorations included the Bronze Star with "V" device, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Special Operations Diver Badge, Ranger Tab and Special Forces Tab.

He is survived by his wife, Julie, and three sons, Cody, Blake and Dylan of Spring Lake, N.C. He is also survived by his parents, Larry and Marsha Gonsalves, of Turlock, Calif.

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